



INFORMATIVO ASPAT-CEDET

◆ *English Version* ◆

Newsletter of
ASPAT – Parents and Friends Association to Support Talent

June 2011 – June 2012
#03

What is CEDET?

The **Centre for the Development of Potential and Talent (CEDET)** is a center of Special Education with international recognition. It was conceived in 1992 by educator Zenita Guenther, and, in 1993, it was implemented in Lavras by the mayor Jussara Menicucci. CEDET works at building a physical and social space to facilitate using its methodology – *Ways to Develop Potential and Talent*. Its main goal is to complement and supplement regular education for gifted and talented students. The CEDET is linked to the Department of Education and Culture of Lavras, with technical guidance provided by the Parents and Friends Association to Support Talent – ASPAT. Currently eleven local schools, eight state schools and two private schools are attended by the CEDET, plus some students brought in by their families, totaling 583 students.

ASPAT's new Board of Directors

The election for ASPAT's new board of directors was held on last April, 24th, with presence of parents, representatives from schools, some organizations active in most of the ASPAT activities, and other associates, children and adolescents. The new Board of Directors for the biennium 2012 / 2013 was thus formed: Staël Maria Patto Dessimoni Pinto, president; Lourenço Ricardo de Oliveira, vice-president; Giovana Carla Cândida, 1st and Maria Celeste Almeida, 2nd secretary; Maria Déa Lopes, 1st and José Luiz Rigato, 2nd financial director; Zenita Cunha Guenther, 1st and Josiane Patricia Aguiar de Carvalho, 2nd technical director; for the Fiscal Committee, Carlos Frederico Leite Corrêa, Maria de Lourdes Costa Oliveira, Rosa Maria Afonso, Marcos Antônio Cherezi and Alcione Lopes.



VIII International Encounter of CEDET-ASPAT Educators

On October 21st, 2011, the CEDET-Lavras opened its doors to the *VIII International Encounter for CEDET-ASPAT Educators*. The Guest Speaker was Dr. Helena Serra, a university professor and researcher in Gifted Education in Porto, Portugal. Professor Amauri Bartoszeck (Universidade Federal do Paraná) gave a presentation on Neuroscience and Education On the 22nd. There were several teachers, facilitators from other Cedets in Brasil, university professors from some Brazilian Universities, such as UFSCar, UFF, UFSM and UFRP.



Cedet Open House



Mayor Jussara Menicucci, Dr. Helena Serra and Dr. Zenita Guenther



Cedet teams from Lavras (MG), Poços de Caldas (MG), São José dos Campos (SP) and Vitória (ES), in Martha Roberts Hall and in Cetet



Prof. Amauri Bartoszeck

Volunteer's Party 2011

The Volunteer's Party is a festive moment happening every year, as a way to say "Thank You" to all persons who helped with CEDET and ASPAT during the year. In 2011, such a party was on November 23rd, at the Victoria Palace Hotel, with an expressive presence of guests.



CEDET's Pedagogical Areas

Following its basic philosophical orientation and theoretical framework, the CEDET as an Educational Center is organized in three content areas which undertakes the organization of content activities: CITEC (Science, Research and Technology), CORH (Communication, Organization and Humanities) and CRHEX (Creativity, Skills and Expression). In 2011 there were 154 group and individual activities developed at CEDET. To conduct such activities this year, we had 150 volunteers who worked with the diverse chosen themes, or helping CEDET and ASPAT in other tasks.

Communication, Organization and Humanities' Area

This area focuses on the experience of inter-personal interactions, aiming to work on living experiences with different people, social interactions, and sense of togetherness. As an example of such a type of activities, there was the interest group named "Interesting Places" where the students explore and gather information about the city of Lavras can offer as leisure, culture, and learning on economy and natural heritage. Other examples of activities are the interest groups "Knowing Countries" and "Time Tunnel", for broadening the perception of spatial and temporal dimensions of geographic and historical organizations; also there were individual studies and study groups in Literature and foreign languages (English, French, Italian, German, Russian), in which there are stimulation, interaction and living experience among participants, youth and adults both from Brazil and other countries.



Time Tunnel



Communication Practice



Academy of Letters

"If there were no books, there would be no culture. The books guide us on life's road. Consider them as your best friends: they will never betray you. Reading is the key to wisdom, the greatest good we can have"
(Alanys, Álvaro, André, Emily, Khristley e Rodolfo).



Salut!



Knowing Countries



Interesting Places



Individual Activity on French

Colloquium with Families (June 2011)



Last June CEDET celebrated the 18th anniversary with a Colloquium organized by Aspat, to promote discussion on the theme "Family's Great Challenges in Today's World". The invited expert speakers talked on their specific fields: Dr. Alcides Félix de Oliveira (Family Law), Father Eligio Stulp (Religion within the Family), Prof. Heloísa Rosa Carvalho (Family Economy), Maria Inês Ribeiro Costa Jonas (Health Care at Home) and Prof. Maria Olímpia Alves de Melo (Cultural events around our Town).

Prince Bernard's Visit to Cedet (July 2011)



On July 28, 2011 CEDET received the illustrious visit of the Prince Bernard Ngouda of Cameroon, Africa. His Highness traveled to Brazil with the objective of learning about successful educational programs, to export the possibilities of having them in his country.



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CEDET/Lavras Team of Facilitators

Technical Director: Dr. Zenita Guenther. **Coordination:** Josiane Carvalho.
Facilitators: Adalto Barbosa, Alcione Lopes, Dirlene Carvalho, Geovani Németh-Torres, Giovanna Carla Cândida, Lucilene Aparecida Ferreira, Maria Celeste de Almeida, Renata Chula, Rejane Aparecida Simplicio, Staël Maria Pinto e Tatiana Rezende. **Staff:** Nayara Silva (Secretary), Rosa Maria Afonso de Souza (General Services) e Edson Ribeiro (Driver).

The Newsletter ASPAT-CEDET is an annual publication of ASPAT, with free distribution. Circulation: 1,000 copies. Edited by Geovani Németh-Torres, with collaboration of journalist Rachel Campos (member of Aspat). English translation: Giovanna Cândida, Geovani Torres and Marcos Coelho, with revision by Zenita Guenther.

Creativity, Skills and Expression Area



(Volunteer's Party 2011 – Place: Hotel Vitória)

In order to explore expressions of general creativity and creative thinking, the group Stage/Action with originality and sensitivity, has interpreted Personas, a verbal collage based on poems by Fernando Pessoa and his heteronyms.

*"... I am a keeper of sheep,
my thoughts are the flock
and my thoughts are all sensations,
I think with eyes and ears,
and with hands and feet,
and the nose and mouth ..."*



Creating on the Sound
Balance



Paint the Town Red



Chords and Harmony



Refining the Look



Tunes and Sounds



From Moment to Movement

Science, Research and Technology Area

"The area of Science, Research and Technology deals with the general context in which we live, in search of understanding and build an internal frame of reference to approach the world.. The main goal is to focus on opening doors to the world of scientific knowledge..." [cf.: GUENTHER, Zenita. **Ways to Develop Potential and Talent**. Lavras: UFLA, 2011, p. 22].

The activities usually happen in different settings and environments appropriated to the theme being explored; the studies are usually conducted by competent professionals, who often prefer teaching within the appropriate scenery for the subject, such as laboratories, research fields, trails, gardens...



Here are some of the testimony given by students: Fernanda Sophya Leite Cambraia (age 12) "At the CEDET we have opportunity to contact different areas of knowledge. In this semester, I could improve my notions about Veterinary through the Interest Group "SOS Animals". This experience was great, I could see veterinary as a much nicer field than I had imagined, and I know that I will remember what I learned for the rest of my life".



Gabriel Henrique de Souza Carvalho (age 12) "Engineering is designated by the words *Modernity and Technology* taken together. Engineering seen a simple word impairs a real understanding, they are not enough to indicate the importance of this scientific field. Engineering is thinking in the new, to believe in the future, to innovate, invest on tomorrow, on a better world. For me CEDET is the link that connects myself to this world, and through it I get deeper on its knowledge every day. I wish that many children and young people just like me could live in this innovative world, and thanks to CEDET many are given the honor of knowing this subject matter. "



Sara Natália S. de Souza (age 14). "I feel fulfilled with my choice to join the study group 'Human Machine'. I am very excited and working hard to take advantage of this opportunity. I feel at ease when together with my group mates and the Volunteers with whom I have been living, learning, finding answers and deepening my knowledge. I feel immensely proud to be part of the family - CEDET."

Identification Methodology:

Refining the instruments...

Humanities and Social Sciences are some of the scientific research areas that most rapidly show both: cultural bias and aging signs caused by use in a given socio-cultural context. As a result their research tools require frequent updating to stay tuned to their goals and purposes.

When in 1992 CEDET moved away from being a "project" to become a practicing field, we designed our observation guide for teachers, in order to collect identification data to find the more able children within the school population. This same guide, with minor revisions, was validated in 1997 by a research funded through UFLA-FAPEMIG. All during these last 20 years CEDET's observation guide has been used throughout Brazil, with good results.

But 20 years is a long time. The research on development of human ability nearly tripled, and our social-cultural milieu changed considerably. It was necessary to update our old guide, so well known by teachers and schools.

Now in 2011-12 as planned, we conducted an extensive research to update and validate our guide, involving practically every school within the Municipal and State School Systems in Lavras, and private schools attended by CEDET and ASPAT, that is, all of the schools where identification data is annually collected. After processing and studying the data, a new set of observation items was put together. The changes were in *form* more than in *content*, introducing guidance of a theoretical nature for processing and analyzing data, without changing the general way teachers use the guide in observing their classes.

We hope that, after the "reality test" to be taken by the Lavras schools, now in 2012, we will be able to substitute the old guide by the new updated one. Starting in 2013 we probably can introduce and stimulate other CEDETs into adopting the new observation data for regular use.

But the work does not end here. We need to move ahead improving and programming our method into an informatics procedure, have the make the package available, with *copywriter* registered to ASPAT. For such a long reaching project, we are recruiting knowledgeable students and alumni to jointly produce a computer program for our identification methodology, moving CEDET into advanced technology. We count on you for this!

A big hug,
Zenita Guenther



ROTARY/CEDET/ASPAT

Three community forces vocationally working with Education by the common origin to SERVE and be useful.

The centennial ROTARY moves and works hand in hand with the young CEDET and its community based ASPAT, walking the roads, facing adversity, misunderstandings, looking for the best. By agglutinating forces from principles to do what exerts influences, we act and record valuable, often innovative consequences. These forces are ever more vivid, more actively sounding, closely following the upward march of knowledge, science and technology. And it is imperative that no time is wasted, by avoiding redundancies, keeping the step and grabbing the springs and opportunities for growth

Notice that we can not stop dreaming (Shakespeare) since we are made of the same matter of our dreams.

We must care for our own realities at the CEDET, not only the improvement of our facilitators, but also of our resources, enabling to offer more possibilities to our youth, our volunteers and helpers, in order to add to the sum of our work and projects. There is no escaping from the money matters and expenses. We always reached the best possible, but we want to grow in quantity and quality, strengthening this union ROTARY / CEDET / ASPAT.

Carlos Frederico Leite Corrêa. May 22nd, 2012.

Inter-action UFLA – CEDET

One of the rare cases of consensus in society stems from the importance of education for a country's social and economic growth. This fact becomes even more significant for Brazil, which is a relatively young country, and in recent years has been experiencing expressive changes in people's income, placing the country as one of the powerful ones in the world.

This fact will only be consolidated from the moment we have the vast majority of our young people both, attending a university, and more aware of their responsibilities in building a better country. To make that happen as fast as needed, it is necessary to amplify through all the townships in Brazil such actions as the ones happening here at the CEDET.

We know that every human being is unique and *exclusive* and we all have some talent. It is a task for the family and the school to identify talented students in different areas, as soon as possible. Besides identifying them it is necessary to encourage these youngsters to "cultivate" their skills, thus keeping them motivated to continue improving the ability and talents they have received.

The University becomes very important at the exact proper moment to encourage the development of talents. An early living together within the university environment will undoubtedly contribute to sharpen these youngsters' minds, and make it possible for them to grasp the idea that knowledge has no limits, and it is only through much dedication and effort that they will effectively contribute to the country's development.

It is with this vision of the future that the Federal University of Lavras has sought to stimulate cooperation with CEDET, looking forward to the time when the entrance exams to UFLA will select the most academically talented students. And more than that, select students who see knowledge acquisition as means to bring better days for all the community.

Professor Magno Antonio Patto Ramalho, Dean of Extension and Culture, UFLA

Interview: Engineer Marcos Paulo Coelho, a former CEDET student

(English version revised by the author)

Along its 19 years of existence, thousands of young people were identified and passed through CEDET, where they could develop their skills and broaden their world view. In April 2012, we received one of its most beloved ex-students, newly graduated engineer from Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Marcos Paulo Coelho, 23, son of José Natal Coelho and Margarida Vieira Coelho. Marcos, who now works at Embraer, is a concrete example of how CEDET positively influences the lives of young gifted people. When they receive good guidance and counseling, they can fully develop their potential, realize their dreams and succeed in life. Marcos kindly told us some of his memories and plans for the future.

“Which memories do you have from CEDET?”

I started working at CEDET in 2003, when I was in eighth grade. At that time, I was still living in Itumirim, but I had already started studying in Lavras at Tiradentes School. I stayed in the center until 2006 when I graduated from high school. In CEDET I did several activities and also I became a volunteer as a chess instructor. I loved to meet people like me there, that is, people with similar wishes and thoughts, different from those I was used to find in regular school. I can say that CEDET was my home in Lavras: among activities, courses, meetings and conversations, I spent hours and hours there.

“How did CEDET influence your life?”

Yes, it sure it did influence me. I think that being a part within CEDET gave me a greater understanding of my abilities. I gained more confidence in myself and realized that those dreams I had were not so far from coming true. All knowledge and experience I got in the activities I performed at CEDET, in teamwork and in contact with the Center facilitators helped to increase my growth.

“When did you realize that?”

Since the beginning of my time at CEDET, I could feel it. But, in 2005, when I took part of the exchange program S-Laropa in Čadca, Slovakia, the influence of those experiences in my life became more evident. I did not expect going to Europe so soon. It was a good time that I will never forget. Despite the short period, I could share many experiences with the others S-Laropa groups.



I had the opportunity to observe behaviors and ideas of those young people who were so different from me and so similar at the same time. I could take advantage of this experience for my own development as a citizen and as a student.

“What do you most want to accomplish in the future?”

I am very happy to work in São José dos Campos at Embraer, specifically with aircraft manufacturing, which is an old dream of mine. I hope to do a good job developing my assignments, putting into practice what I learned in college and in life. I still hope to be able to bring payback to my country with my work. I know my skills come also from public investments and that I have a debt with Brazil. I also want to help reestablish a CEDET in Itumirim in order to make possible more young people taking chances to extract all the potential they have, contributing not only with their lives but also with our society.

CEDET – UNILAVRAS: A Successful Partnership

Through the Unilavras – CEDET partnership the young students have uncommon opportunities to experience practices in the areas of health and sciences, within an academic environment, and through the use of the Unilavras various laboratories. Take a time to learn a little more about this project developed by UNILAVRAS working with CEDET' students:



- **First-aid measures that can save lives:** the project is developed by the Nursing Program. The main goal is to teach first aid basic and fundamental principles to the students in order to develop skills that can enable them to act with caution and knowledge in emergency and urgent situations.

- **Anatomy for-all:** developed by the Physical Therapy Course, provides students with knowledge of anatomy comprising function and formation of the body systems: skeletal, muscular, nervous, digestive, circulatory, respiratory and genitourinary tracts. By so doing we expect them to be able to recognize body systems and its parts, plus the relationship between Health Sciences that study the anatomy, awakening the student's interest on the importance of living a healthy life.

- **Physiotherapy for kids:** embrace this idea. Is developed by the Physiotherapy Course to teach to about the areas of Physical Therapy and with their tasks and attributions, helping them to understand the concept of health, how to care for your body and prevent injuries. It is also offered opportunities for practicing activities that contribute to the good functioning of the human body, and exercises such as stretching and massage.



- **Experimenting with Chemistry:** developed by the Industrial Chemistry course, aims to promote the dissemination of Chemistry as a science and a profession, offering to the interested students the opportunity to receive updated information about the interface between scientific and technological development [ASCOM/Unilavras].

European Voluntary Service



The EVS is an exchange program conducted by the European Union to promote life experience for young adults, age 18 to 29, that since 2005 includes ASPAT as a sending and receiving organization. Now in 2012 we are hosting in Lavras the volunteers Inese Saknīte (from Latvia), Zdenko Somorovsky (from Slovakia) and Rosangela Coti (from Italy). In the past years, 2010 and 2011, we sent the school teacher Talita Nassur to Czech Republic and the college student Paulo Henrique de Carvalho to Slovakia for a one year stay.

The “Assisted Observation Session” – CEDET 2012

"Assisted observation for collecting specific identification data happens in the time between the signalization of high ability, from classroom data, and the effective identification of the student ability domains. During this period the student has a variety of opportunities for non academic or school learning such as sharing life situations, perform, make choices and general interaction with other students also showing signs of high ability." [cf.: GUENTHER, Zenita. (2011) **Caminhos para Desenvolver Potencial e Talento** (Ways to Develop Potential and Talent) Lavras: UFLA, 2011, p. 69]. This year, the meeting between students and facilitators for the Assisted Observation Session at CEDET happened on the morning of March 3, 2012 and was attended by 66 students from 21 schools.



New Students Parent Meeting (March 2012)



Each year there is a meeting at CEDET, aiming to engage and enlighten parents whose children are now being enrolled. In this reunion, in march 2012, the new families had their chance to visit CEDET, meet with their children's facilitator, and learn about what the children will be doing at CEDET.

The “Intern Assistant” Meeting (April 2012)

"The CEDET teaching staff is complete by adding a teacher from each school, usually designated by the Principal. Basically this should be a person who is interested in working with students enrolled in CEDET." [GUENTHER, Zenita, op. cit., p. 114]. One of our Intern Assistant since 2006 is Ms. Tatiana Rodrigues, presently the Principal of one school (Complexo Educacional Jeová Medeiros). According to Tatiana, "it is a pleasure to help CEDET, because I really appreciate the ideal of differentiated education. The work which is developed there is very important, as it provides many opportunities for our students."

